Hualapai Maternal Child Health Program

The Hualapai Maternal Child Health Program (MCH) provides health services to pregnant women and children birth through age 3 living on the Hualapai Reservation.

Funded by a $114,185 grant from the First Things First Hualapai Regional Council, FY 2010 services included home visits by two staff members of the Hualapai Health Department: a registered nurse with experience in lactation consultation and maternal healthcare, and

Department. Conversations with Head Start indicated that many children required earlier intervention to prepare them for participation in Head Start. "First Things First initiated an assessment of children from birth to 5 and identified resources we didn't know existed. We're so remote out here. We're not in the city where resources are readily available."

MCH relies on word of mouth to promote the program and most pregnant women in the Hualapai Nation participate.

> " First Things First initiated an assessment of children from birth to 5 and identified resources we didn't know existed. We're so remote out here. We're not in the city where resources are readily available."
>
> - Sandra Irwin, RN., MPH
> Director of the Hualapai Health Department

a new mother from the community. In-home visits extended to well-child checks for children unable to visit a clinic.

In addition to home visitation, the grant provided funding for group education for new mothers, child care providers, group training for Head Start staff and parents and nonclinical child assessments.

"We started looking at how our children weren't achieving in school," said Sandra Irwin, RN., MPH, director of the Hualapai Health

MCH provided services in FY 2010 to 42 women and children birth through 3. The grant was renewed for $116,542 in FY 2011 and will continue providing the services established in FY 2010.

"One of the things we lack here is that we don't keep track of the accomplishments and keep everybody informed," Irwin said. "First Things First helps bring structure."